

Docket No. F-8375

Ser. No. 10/509,701

REMARKS

Claims 1-9 are now pending in this application. Claims 1-4, 6 and 7 are rejected. Claims 1-7 are amended herein to clarify the invention to indicate that the seal. Other formal matters are attended to that were not addressed by the Examiner and accordingly are considered unrelated to substantive patentability issues. For the convenience of the Examiner, APPENDIX I is provided herewith having a complete set of pending claims with all amendments effected therein.

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1-4, 6 and 7 are rejected as obvious over the Matsumoto reference in view of the Blazey reference under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). The applicant herein respectfully traverses this rejection. For a rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) to be sustained, the differences between the features of the combined references and the present invention must be obvious to one skilled in the art.

In setting forth the rejection the Examiner relies on the Blazey reference for teaching reading intrinsic information after a seal confirming step on the Blazey reference. It is respectfully submitted that the Blazey in combination with the Matsumoto reference cannot render obvious claims 1 and 2 because reading intrinsic information on a seal item is not reasonably taught and using that information in conjunction with a circuit board identification information to develop a management database is not taught.

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In the cited reference B (Blazey et al.), the invention is configured so that before a container is sealed, manifest information is transmitted to a web site, and an access code is acquired (FIG. 7, 155, 160), thereafter a tag with the access code is printed (FIG. 7, 165), and the tag is used to seal the container (FIG. 7, 175). For this reason, if the cargo contained in the container is replaced with others before the container is sealed, or if the manifest information transmitted to the web site did not match with the actual cargo to begin with, the cargo in the container does not match with the information on the database even when the container is sealed. Hence, since the information representing items in the container to be sealed is acquired prior to the sealing and sealing confirmation, the Blazey reference, even combined with the Matsumoto reference, cannot render obvious the presently claimed invention. In particular, the claims require that the circuit board case is sealed before the identification information of the predetermined electronic sealed in the circuit board case is read and database is developed. Therefore, as long as the circuit board case is sealed, the correspondence of the database information with the items contained in the circuit board case can be guaranteed. This cannot be said of the applied references.

Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the rejected claims are not obvious in view of the cited reference(s) for the reasons stated above. Reconsideration of the rejections of claims 1-4, 6 and 7 and their allowance are respectfully requested.

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ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER OBJECTIONS - NEW CLAIMS

The Office Action states that claim 5 is objected to as being dependent from rejected base claims. The Examiner indicates that the claim contains allowable subject matter and would be allowed if put in independent form incorporating the limitations of the base and intervening claims. The subject matter of claim 5 is presented in claims 8 and 9 and their allowance is therefore respectfully requested.

REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Applicant respectfully requests one month extension of time for responding to the Office Action. **The fee of \$130.00 for the extension is provided for in the charge authorization presented in the PTO Form 2038, Credit Card Payment form, provided herewith.**

If there is any discrepancy between the fee(s) due and the fee payment authorized in the Credit Card Payment Form PTO-2038 or the Form PTO-2038 is missing or fee payment via the Form PTO-2038 cannot be processed, the USPTO is hereby authorized to charge any fee(s) or fee(s) deficiency or credit any excess payment to Deposit Account No. 10-1250.

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In light of the foregoing, the application is now believed to be in proper form
for allowance of all claims and notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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